

MAKING THE CONNECTION

With concerns about drought and high energy prices, many people are looking for a way not only to conserve our natural resources, but also to save money.

Many of us know the importance of saving electricity and saving water, but few know about the direct connection between the two. We turn on the bathroom lights and the shower without realizing how closely related water and electricity are to each other.

Now is the time for us to start making this connection.



<http://www.epa.gov/region7>

KICKAPOO TRIBE IN KANSAS

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Saving Water Saves Electricity

Making the connection from the faucet
to the tap



**Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas
Environmental Department**



Working together
for a better community

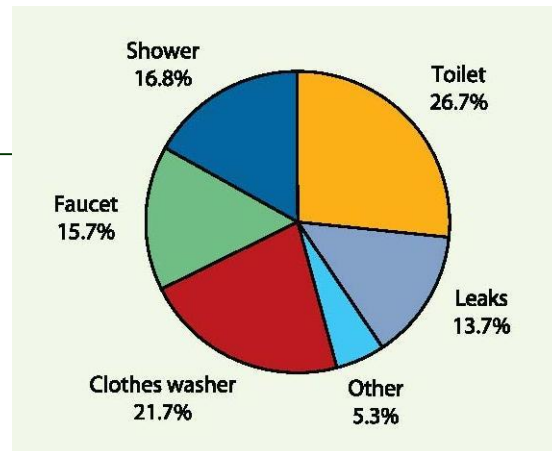
Water Facts

Water Efficiency Saves Energy

The collection, distribution, and treatment of drinking and wastewater consume tremendous amounts of energy. This in turn is responsible for the release 116 billion pounds of carbon dioxide per year. This equivalent to the pollution emitted by 10 million cars.

Providing this water to households consumes about 4 percent of the total power generated.

Reducing water consumption saves energy because less water needs to be treated and pumped to homes. When energy usage is reduced, water is saved because less is needed in the operation of power plants.



How Much Water Do We Use?

A Family of four can use 400 gallons of water every day. Almost 70 percent of this water will be used indoors.

The bathroom is the largest consumer of indoor water. The toilet alone can be responsible for about 27 percent of the total water consumed.

- Older toilets can use anywhere from 3.5 to 7 gallons of water per flush.
- A leaky toilet can waste about 200 gallons of water every single day.
- The Average bathroom faucet runs at about 2 gallons per minute. By turning off the tap when brushing your teeth, the average saving would be about 200 gallons of water per month



That last 30 Percent

With 70 percent of water being used indoors, what about that last 30 percent? It is being used for outdoor gardening, landscaping, or irrigation. Of this, experts estimate that about 50 percent is wasted due to the effects of evaporation or overwatering.

- Water when needed.
It's best to water your lawn or garden during the night or in the morning hours. This will reduce loss from evaporation.
- Plant Native.
Try plants native to where you live. These won't require as much watering and will better adapted to the climate.
- Rain Barrels.
A rain barrel is a system that collects and stores rainwater from your roof that would otherwise be lost to runoff and diverted to storm drains and streams. It can then be used when you your lawn need it most, during droughts.

